

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09342 160752Z

12
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 007142

R 160720Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9118
INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9342

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, US, IR, CH
SUBJ: IRANIAN REACTION TO MAO'S DEATH

REF: TEHRAN 9184

1. EARLIER THIS WEEK MINISTER OF COURT ASSADOLLAH ALAM NOT ONLY CALLED AT THE PRC EMBASSY TO EXTEND CONDOLENCES ON MAO'S DEATH BUT ALSO CONDUCTED A CEREMONY IN THE PRESENCE OF PRC DIPLOMATS IN ORDER TO UNDERLINE DISPLAY OF GRIEF AND RESPECT ON BEHALF OF IMPERIAL COURT.

2. THIS UNUSUAL RECOGNITION WAS CLEARLY THE MOST THE IRANIANS COULD COME UP WITH SINCE NO FOREIGNERS ARE TO PARTICIPATE IN MEMORIAL SERVICES IN PEKING. SHAH FEELS INDEBTED TO PRC FOR ITS SUPPORT OF HIS VARIOUS POLICIES PARTICULARLY ON PURCHASE OF ARMS TO MODERNIZE HIS ARMED FORCES AND ON HIS EFFORTS TO INSURE THE SECURITY OF THE PERSIAN GULF REGION FROM SOVIET OR RADICAL ARAB INTRUSION. TWO RECENT PEOPLE'S DAILY DEFENSES OF IRAN ARMS POLICY, (CARRIED BY FBIS), WERE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED IN TEHRAN COMING AS THEY DID SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH SFRC HEARINGS IN WASHINGTON AND BROADSIDES FROM THE SOVIET PRESS AGAINST THE SHAH'S POLICY ON ARMS PURCHASES.

3. FOR MANY MONTHS THE PRC HAS BEEN "WOOING" THE IRANIANS. THAT IS THE SHAH'S EXPRESSION USED WHEN DISCUSSING IRAN-PRC RELATIONS WITH VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER HERE LAST MARCH. PRC HAS MUCH WANTED THE SHAH TO VISIT CHINA, BUT PRTOCOLAIRE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09342 160752Z

CONSIDERATIONS HAVE MADE THIS DIFFICULT. THE EMPRESS AND THE

PRIME MINISTER HAVE BEEN TO CHINA, BUT NO PRC OFFICIAL SENIOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS VISITED IRAN. THE SHAH SAID TO THE VICE PRESIDENT THAT HE WOULD NOT LET PURE PROTOCOL STAND IN THE WAY OF THE PROPER CONDUCT OF BUSINESS WITH THE PRC, NEVERTHELESS HE HAS NOT MADE THE TRIP TO CHINA EVEN THOUGH THAT GOVERNMENT HAS IMPORTUNED HIM.

4. IT IS SAFE TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE IRANIANS AND THE PRC WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE AGAINST THE SOVIETS, THE FERVOR OF THE RELATIONSHIP ON THE IRANIAN SIDE BEING IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE WEIGHT OF SOVIET ATTACKS ON IRANIAN POLICIES. THE SHAH WILL LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED TO INSURE THAT THE PRC IS WELL AWARE OF HIS APPRECIATION FOR ITS SUPPORT.
HELMS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRADITIONAL LEADERS, DEATHS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TEHRAN09342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760350-0196
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760951/aaaabrzo.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 9184
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRANIAN REACTION TO MAO'S DEATH
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, IR, CH, US, (MAO TSE-TUNG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006